

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

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### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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#### Politics of Europe.

We had formerly occasion to notice the creation of a new Ministerial Engine, named the Constitutional Association. We give to-day the opinions of Mr. Brougham concerning it, which we believe will be admitted to be just, by all who are unbiased by party feelings. That Peers should contribute funds to a Society set up to institute prosecutions against individuals, of whom they may eventually become the Judges, appears to be quite a new mode of attacking the Constitution. What security remains for the liberty of the subject, if the Peers exercise at the same moment the functions of Prosecutors, Judges, and Legislators? Considering also the support which such an Association is likely to gain from all the adherents of Ministers, Sinecurists, Pensioners &c. it would not be difficult to trace the money of the Public through the pockets of those upon whom it is lavished for their servility to Ministers into the Treasury of this Association to create funds for the express purpose of destroying the Liberty of the Press. Ministers, not satisfied with corrupting the Legislature with the public money, are now contriving, in an indirect way, to introduce its influence into the Courts of Justice, where Liberty had fled, as to the last constitutional refuge yet remaining uncontaminated.

Among the miscellaneous contents of that portion of our Paper allotted to European intelligence, will be found an Engraving of a Roman Altar, discovered near Chester. It is in itself an object of considerable curiosity; and the execution of it may be regarded as another proof of the Native talent for imitation. From the successful attempts already made, and particularly the last Engraving of the Heads to illustrate the Facial Line of different races of monkeys and men, we may augur very favourably of the future progress of the Natives of India in the imitative arts, when the grossness of their taste is corrected by a careful study of the more perfect models imported from Europe; and though they should be wanting in the higher talent of combining and inventing, yet they are evidently possessed of the capacity to imitate the creations of others, and may do much in that particular.

In the ASIATIC DEPARTMENT will be found two letters on subjects respecting which much diversity of opinion may be supposed to be entertained. The introduction of Christianity into India considered politically, and thus only perhaps it ought to be treated in a Newspaper, we consider a matter of deep interest and importance. The religion of a country is so interwoven with the morals and habits of the people, that it seems hardly possible to make any moral reformation, while the former remains unchanged. As long as superstition continues to cloud the understanding, the progress of knowledge must be slow, and the influence of a false morality confirmed by authority, supposed divine, cannot be destroyed, but by rooting out the religious prejudices on which it is founded. To introduce Christianity we consider the same as to remove the ignorance and depravity connected with the established superstition, and to substitute in its place the dictates of Truth and the pure morality of the Gospel.

Even if the moral improvement of the Natives were unconnected with their faith, and one could be promoted without touching the other, we question how far it would be politic in a Christian Government to separate them. The religion, manners, and customs, of the country, form so many barriers between the European and the Native, and prevent that

free intercourse and association, which serve to bind all the classes and orders of Society together. In England, for instance, there is a chain of communication, whole and unbroken, from the highest rank to the lowest. While the King may find associates amongst those distinguished by his favor in that class next in rank to himself, this class is connected by various ties with that immediately below them, and so on downwards, till as friend, relation, tenant, or dependant, the whole is bound together in one vast family, embracing the poorest Peasant and the Prince on the throne. The policy of the Hindoo religion, on the contrary, seems to have been to divide Society into various orders, by creating distinctions, which nothing should destroy. The effect of these distinctions was to create oppression; but to the want of union thereby produced, may perhaps be ascribed the weakness and fluctuations of Indian Governments. Nature herself has made a broad distinction between Europeans and Asiatics, and Religion erects a still wider barrier between them. We can hardly expect men to regard favourably any religion but their own, nor to abstain from bestowing a part of the aversion in which they hold the religion or its professors. Every convert made to Christianity therefore we view as so much new strength added to British Power in India; since all Christians will warmly support that Government which secures to them the free exercise of their religion; besides the pride and consequence derived from professing the religion of the heads of the State. By the spread of Christianity, the moral influence of Britain in Indian affairs will be augmented, and its power placed on a broad and solid basis which nothing can shake. These are matters not unworthy the attention of Legislators; and we trust they will ere long meet with due consideration by all who have the stability of the Government and the happiness of the subject really at heart.

The letter on "RADICALISM," a title not very auspicious in these times, is one of a Series that the Author proposed to himself to write on the different parties at home; and we insert it to follow that on "TORYISM," because we think, that every subject of so public a nature is entitled to fair and open discussion. The Writer does not seem fully aware, however, that the odium of the word "RADICAL" is sufficient to destroy the force of a thousand arguments. On this account, instead of wasting words in describing the causes of Radicalism, he should have endeavoured to prove to the satisfaction of the Tories (for whose benefit, we must suppose, his arguments are chiefly intended), that this word does not, whenever pronounced, like a magic spell, stamp the persons and opinions to whom it is applied, with falsehood, crime, and infamy! He does not seem to know that an anathema has been pronounced by the COURIER against the whole race of Radicals, and that every catholic Tory regards them as accursed. The Writer does not indeed avow himself to be a Defender of Radicalism; but as he does not condemn it, and attempts to trace its origin to other causes than unprincipled wickedness in the lower orders, he may justly be suspected of having a bias in its favor. The violence of party feelings may have made him overcharge the picture; but we imagine he has given the Tories their full share in the evils he has pointed out, many of which may be considered as more the work of time than of individuals living in this or in any other age. Our Readers, however, will judge for themselves; and even those who disapprove, may be pleased to see what a zealot would say in favor of Radicalism.

*London, May 20, 1821.*—Public credit, as far as the price of the funds may be considered the test, is proceeding in a steady career of improvement:—a circumstance the more remarkable, as numerous contracts for loans to foreign Powers are in a course of fulfilment, which offer much temptation to the English capitalist, in the superior rate of interest. The foreign Powers actually receiving instalments from different contractors, are, Russia, Prussia, Austria, Spain and Naples; and both Sardinia and Portugal, it is supposed, will require similar aid, to enable them to establish the existing order of things on a permanent basis. As neither despotism nor liberty in the government provided the security is good, are subjects for consideration with contractors, both Powers, without doubt, will attain their object. England, it is true, does not wholly supply their exigencies; but in all instances there has been found some banker, or large capitalist of this country, to take a large share in them, from whom the minor speculators make their purchases. Of the capital thus abstracted in the present year, it is impossible to form any estimate, but it must amount, we should think, to several millions. Yet our own funds improve, the speculators for a rise remain firm, and even indulge sanguine expectations of a further advance. The actual increase in the price of Consols, during the week, has been more than one per cent, though the transactions in general, except in the latter part of yesterday's market, have not been on an extensive scale. The only occurrence in Parliament that may be said to bear upon the subject, is the announcement, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, of his intention to appropriate the unclaimed dividends at the Bank to the use of Government. It is understood that the whole of them, except 100,000*l.* will be devoted to that purpose; subject, of course, to all claims that may hereafter be established. The Budget, or annual statement of the finances, is still deferred, on account of the protracted debates on the Army Estimates. All the speculations of the week seem, therefore, to be founded on the expectation that the Budget will be favourable, or on the argument for a rise, which we have frequently before mentioned, that a large consumption of stock is making by the public at a time when it is certain that no more will be created. Consols for the account closed yesterday at 74*½* buyers, and for the opening of the books in July at 75*½*, which, in the present state of the money market, may be considered a high rate of continuation. It is explained, however, by the disinclination shewn by capitalists, though money for short periods is extremely abundant, to lock it up for so long a period as the books remain shut for the dividends. The settlement of the present account will be on Thursday next.

The new Neapolitan loan mentioned in our last has been increased in its amount from 6,000,000 to 16,000,000 of ducats; or, to describe it more technically, from 300,000 to 800,000 ducats of *rentes*. This is in consequence, we understand, of a clause in the original contract, which gave to the contractors the option of increasing the loan in this proportion, if they thought proper, on the same terms. These were under-stated by us last week, the actual contract being to pay 60 ducats for every five duents of *rentes*, instead of 58 or 59. Though more than doubled in amount, the stock does not appear, hitherto, to loose its estimation. It is calculated that more than 50,000 ducats of *rentes*, requiring at least 100,000*l.* of capital, have been sold during the week on the London Exchange alone; yet the price is above 67, and large sums cannot be obtained at that quotation. Buyers seem to be attracted by the known regularity of the Neapolitan Government, which has always paid the interest of the debt punctually, and by the near approach of the first half yearly dividend which becomes due on the 1st July next. Arrangements are making, as in the instance of the Spanish loan, for paying them in London. Spanish bonds continue tolerably steady: they have been affected, in some degree, by the report from Paris of the flight of the King of Spain from his capital, though the same mail which brought the journals containing the statement brought letters to prove its falsehood. French stock preserves the same firmness which it has latterly evinced. The last price from Paris is 83*f.* 55*c.* Austrian stock, by the latest accounts from Vienna, is advancing. Other foreign securities have remained perfectly steady, and without transactions of any importance.—*Englishman.*

*Letter from Lisbon.*—The following is an extract of a private letter, dated Lisbon, the 1st of May:—

"A most outrageous attack was made on the house of the Austrian Charge d'Affaires, in consequence of his not having put up lights to celebrate the new order of things established at Rio de Janeiro. It was well known before-hand that this was meditated; but the Chevalier, trusting to the assurances of protection given by the Government, on the recent occasion of the breaking of the windows of the Nuncio, followed the line of conduct adopted by all the other foreign agents here, and abstained from illuminating. However, so far was the Regency from keeping their word, that, not only was every pane of glass in the house shattered, but a most desperate mob, encouraged by some military officers, continued to surround the premises from dusk in the evening till a quarter before twelve at night, without the slightest molestation from the police, who did not dare to interfere, on account of the officers. Every species of injurious language, was made use of towards the Chevalier and his Royal Master, and several attempts made to force open the door of the house, in which, if they had succeeded, most probably fatal consequences would have ensued; for the Chevalier is a cool and determined man, and a Lisbon mob generally carry knives. At the hour above-mentioned the police insisted on admittance, and themselves placed lights in the windows, saying, 'The people must be satisfied; otherwise they could not prevent the house, from being sacked.' This conduct towards a foreign agent, living under the protection of the laws of nations, is unheard of, and has rendered the situations of all the diplomatic persons here very alarming. The Government have refused any species of satisfaction, save throwing the blame on a sergeant of police. The affair has created a great sensation, for popular excesses of this nature are unknown in Lisbon."

The Paris Papers of Saturday (May 12) were nearly filled with uninteresting debates in the Chamber of Deputies, and the Proceedings in the Court of Peers, on the trial for the conspiracy of the 18th of August, 1820. The plot, which originated at Paris, extended over several parts of the kingdom: its object was to place the son of Bonaparte on the throne. The trial is still proceeding, and excites intense interest.

Nine persons have been thrown into prison by the British Government at Corfu, for petitioning his Majesty to take into consideration the manner in which they are at present governed: one of them who was arrested has since escaped, and is coming to England.

Demerara Papers, to the 19th of March, state, that the Colony was at that period healthy, and the prospect for coffee and sugar favourable,

The late report of the Committee on Foreign Trade has already produced activity in some of the Swedish ports. From Götterburg we learn, by the last Mail, the arrival of twenty-five English vessels there, for loading timber—a speculation attributed to the diminution which has been recommended of the duties on that article.

The COMMERCE, Coverdale, another of the ships chartered by the Emigrant Association, sailed on the morning of the 11th of May from Greenock, for Quebec, with 422 male and female passengers of all ages. The whole go out as agricultural settlers, though the former occupation of the greater part we find to have been that of weaving; a good many labourers, however, appear in the lists, and a few joiners, shoemakers, &c.

*Naples.*—Private letters have been received from Naples to the 1st of May inclusive. The loan for indemnifying the Emperor of Austria for the expence of the late campaign had been extended from 300,000 to 800,000 ducats of *rentes*, or 16,000,000 of capital. The Government of Naples has given an engagement to Mr. C. Rothschild the chief contractor, not to create new *rentes* for the ensuing three years, to pay the interest of the loan always in specie, instead of paper money, and to consign over certain royal estates for the liquidation of the debt, the sale of which is next week to take place in part. The whole of the heads of the Provisional Government have become parties to the con-

tract. One of the letters, after stating the amount of the loan, says, "Thus, in one month of military invasion more than a half is added to the fixed or perpetual debt of the kingdom; thus a twentieth of the national resources is forever mortgaged for the benefit of the conquerors; and thus a greater proportional contribution has been levied on Naples in 2 months than upon France during several years of military occupation." The Prince Royal, or Duke of Calabria, has entirely retired from public business, and lives at Coserta, about 25 miles from the capital. He is generally believed to have been sincere during the whole period of the revolution, and therefore is a great favourite with the nation. A letter of the 27th of April mentions the arrest of General Colletta, Signor Petrenelli, and the Deputy Borelli, and states that seven or eight persons had been shot for not obeying the decree for the delivery up of arms.

*Paris Papers.*—Paris Papers have arrived to the 16th of May. They are chiefly filled with the proceedings of the Court of Peers against the conspirators of the 19th of August, and with uninteresting debates in the Chamber of Deputies. The *Gazette de France* mentions a report, that Ferdinand VII. had fled from Madrid and put himself at the head of the anti-constitutional troops, meaning, we suppose, the bands of Merino in Old Castile. The *Journal des Débats* mentions the arrival in Paris of the physician Crivelli, one of the chiefs of the Piedmontese revolution, adding, that he had been ordered to quit the capital in 24 hours. The *Constitutionnel* asserts, that the fugitives from Naples and the Sardinian territories, who had been forced, by storms, to put into French ports, had been permitted to proceed to Spain. The Chamber of Accusation at Grenoble has decided that nine of the parties implicated in the disturbances of the 20th of March shall be tried before the Court of Assize. The editors of the *Mirror* are on their trial before the Correctional Tribunal at Paris, for various infractions of the law of censorship. The Duchess of Berri, it is said, intends to visit Notre Dame de Liesse, a celebrated pilgrimage in the diocese of Soissons. Many offerings have been made to this shrine; and an *ex-voto*, offered by Anne of Austria for the birth of Louis XIV. is still preserved. A similar motive, it is said, conducts the mother of the Duke of Bourdeaux thither. The King of Naples had not left Rome at the departure of the last courier from that city. His Majesty had had a long interview with the Pope.

*Advices from Madrid.*—Advices have been received from Madrid to the 6th of May. They state, that the King's Chaplain Vinuessa, so long in custody on a charge of plotting the subversion of the Constitution, was, on the 3d instant, pronounced guilty by a court of justice, and sentenced to ten years' hard labour in the galleys, at one of the forts on the African Coast. The populace manifested great discontent at this sentence, which they conceived to be too lenient, and, at three o'clock, P. M. on the 4th, attacked the prison, and, in the face of a brisk fire from a detachment of the National Guard doing duty there, forced the gates, and seized the person of Vinuessa, whom they put to death with the same implements which they had used in breaking into the gaol. Immediately after the success of this criminal enterprise, the populace dispersed, and, next day, the capital appeared to have resumed its ordinary tranquillity. Reports, however, were spread by the Ultra-Royalists, that the Constitutional Club, held at the *Fontana d'Oro*, was occupied in making out a proscription list of their principal adversaries. Expiatory services were, as usual, performed in all the churches of Madrid, on the 2d inst. for the souls of 1500 persons massacred by Murat in 1808, and the garrison attended the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of a monument to their honour, in the Prado. At Alava, Cartagena, St. Jago, and other parts, disturbances have taken place, which, however, were easily repressed. But the Curate Merino's bands in Old Castile still bid defiance to all the efforts made by the Empecinado, Lopes, Bagnos, and Riegos, to suppress them. Norbert Llorente, for publishing a work, entitled "The Proclamation of the Russian General to his army, which is about to enter Spain," has been sentenced to six years' imprisonment. On the 29th ultimo, the Cortes adopted eleven propositions submitted

to them by a committee, the main tendency of which was to make the superior clergy responsible for the conduct of their inferiors. On the 3d instant, they referred to a special committee a motion by M. Toreno, to give to the officers commanding the troops sent against the anti-constitutionalists the same powers which are vested in the Governor of a place besieged. A committee has been appointed to inquire into the alleged embezzlement of 65,000,000 of reals of the recent loan, by some of the Ministers.

*Advices from the Morea.*—Advices have been received from the Morea down to the middle of April. The Turks had received a considerable reinforcement of troops at Patras, and had completely subdued the Greeks in that place. The Archbishop and a number of his followers had fled to the mountains; and several thousands men, women, and children, had found means to escape by sea, and had arrived at Zante in the most destitute state, having fled with nothing but the clothes they wore. Every thing was quiet in the Ionian and other islands. Letters from Constantinople describe that city as in a state of considerable agitation. The circulation of a manifesto by Ypsilanti, asserting that the forces of a neighbouring power, to the amount of 80,000 men, had been placed at his disposal, created some alarm among a part of the population. The Russian Minister publicly disavowed this statement, as far as regarded the Emperor Alexander; but still the old jealousy of Russian hostility and intrigue operated powerfully on the minds of many of the Turks. Warlike preparations are carried on with activity. The Janizaries were armed and assembled; and the fleet, which was busily preparing for sea, would be ready to sail, it was expected, in a few days. Several arrests had been made, and two more Greek Bishops beheaded. The undisciplined Turkish recruits had committed so many depredations on private property, that the English Minister had found it necessary to expostulate personally with the Porte: his remonstrances were listened to; proper arrangements were made by the police; and the English merchants felt satisfied that the former irregularities would not again take place. By the last advices, Ypsilanti is stated to have passed the Danube; but nothing can be relied on with certainty regarding his operations. Ali Pasha has, it is stated, once more come out of Janina, defeated the hostile and intrusive Pasha, who narrowly escaped being taken, and has advanced to Prevesa. The Albanians, it is also said, are now rejoining his standard.

*Hanover, April 30.*—The preparations which are to be made on account of the arrival of his Majesty the King are carrying on with great diligence. It is conjectured that, besides the Princes and Princesses of the Royal Family, some Foreign Princes will accompany his Majesty. According to the latest accounts, however, his Majesty will probably not arrive before the end of August. At the beginning of August the army will go into Camp about a league from this city, except one regiment, which will remain in garrison at Stade. We hear that during his Majesty's stay here he will hold a Grand Chapter of the Order of the Guelphs.

The apartments fitting here for his Majesty, and the furniture, will be in every respect like those of England.

*Paris, May 10.*—The Duchess of Berry, it is said, intends to visit Notre Dame de Liesse, a celebrated pilgrimage in the diocese of Soissons. Many offerings have been made to this shrine: and an *ex-voto*, offered by Anne of Austria for the birth of Louis XIV. is still preserved. A similar motive conducts the pious mother of the Duke of Bordeaux thither. Five per Cent. Consols, 83f. 45c.

*Vienna, April 29.*—There is reason to believe that their Majesties will arrive at Schoenbrunn about the 12th of May. The journey from Laybach to Vienna will not be interrupted except by a short stay at Gratz, and by an excursion to Thornberg, a fine estate belonging to the Archduke John, in Styria.—The Emperor Alexander will not arrive until some days after our Sovereign; and it is said he will very soon proceed to Petersburgh by the way of Warsaw, and will review his army on the frontiers of Galacia.

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**The last time we met.**

Oh! how brilliantly sparkled the bowl  
 The last night which together we passed ;  
 And when each came resolved in his soul  
 To enjoy it—although 'twas the last !  
 I know not what fortune intends,  
 Nor whether she'll smile on me yet :  
 But of this I am certain, my friends,  
 I'll remember the last time we met !  
 I'll remember how often that eve  
 In the midst of our frolic and whim  
 Each heart paused a moment—to grieve—  
 And was full, like each glass, to the brim ;  
 I'll remember what kind things were said,  
 And their worth whom I long shall regret :  
 Yes, till friendship—till feeling be dead,  
 I'll remember the last time we met !  
 Tho' the present be cheerless and chill,  
 And the future frown on till the last,  
 It is something, my friends, if we still  
 Can look back with delight on the past.  
 But I'll cherish the hope in my soul,  
 Tho' divided and far, we may yet  
 Meet together once more round the bowl,  
 And be blest as the last time we met.

**Slave Trade.**—Another series of papers relating to the Slave Trade has been printed by order of the House of Commons. It consists of extracts of all communications received at the Admiralty from the Naval Officers stationed on the Coast of Africa or in the West Indies since the 1st of January, 1820, relative to that detestable traffic. Many new cases are stated, shewing the success with which the present Treaty is evaded, and the inadequacy of the existing regulations. The last letter of the series is one from Commodore Sir G. R. Collier, dated 14th Feb. 1820, and addressed to J. W. Croker, Esq. enclosing the duplicate of a letter which that active and humane officer had addressed, upon the subject of the difficulties and delays he met with, to the Courts of the Mixed Commission; adding—

"I regret to say, the plan now commenced by the slavers, of declaring upon oath that the men slaves had been received as hired men to navigate the vessel, and the slave boys as servants, is likely to encourage the trade, and increase the difficulty of condemnation, it being almost impossible to effect the capture by such complete surprise as to prevent the escape of a large proportion of the slaves. The contempt in which the slave-masters now hold the Treaty is such as to induce them to boast of their evasions, and confess themselves waiting for the number of slaves they have agreed for; and in some instances they have carried this so far as to point out their live cargo upon the beach, only waiting the absence of the ship of war to load.—The flags of France and America are now generally adopting it, as the best cover to illicit slaving; and the unpleasant situation this places his Majesty's Officers under, who are charged with preventing this traffic, must be evident to their Lordships, and will, I hope, induce them to give me some specific instructions upon his head."

**Fraud.**—A clerk in the Bank of England, named Turner, is in custody for a fraud on his employers by altering the transfer-books so as to make 4000*l.* navy fives 14,000*l.* then selling out the 10,000*l.* and cutting out the leaf in the transfer-book, to avoid detection. The fraud was committed last March. Reference for another name on the torn-out leaf, and a witnessing signature of the prisoner led to the discovery. After examination before the Directors, he was kept in custody of Fay, the officer, and locked up a bed-room at night: thence he endeavoured to escape; but falling on the pavement, he received such injuries that he was retaken, and conveyed to Bartholomew's Hospital.

**Majoechi.**—A Morning Paper says, that the famous Majoechi passed over from Dover to Calais on Thursday last, in the King George mail packet, under the assumed name of Doctor Majo.

**Registry Office for Servants,  
IN CALCUTTA.**

We have great pleasure in being able to state, that an Establishment is about to be formed for the Registry of Native Servants, on a Plan likely to be equally beneficial to the European and the Native Community, and under the countenance and sanction of the Government. Several attempts have been made to establish an Institution of this nature, but they have failed rather from want of intelligence and activity in the Managers than from any inherent impracticability of the undertaking itself. We shall be enabled shortly to lay the details of the Plan now proposed, before the Public, for their judgement and support, as it will require the cordial co-operation of Masters as well as the acquiescence of Servants to ensure its success; and any System that will not encroach on the liberty of choice and freedom of service, while it secures to the Master an assurance of protection from loss and inconvenience, and to the Servant employment suited to his qualifications and deserts, must be acknowledged to be highly useful and deserving the patronage of all.

**Translating and Pauperism.**—Benjamin Haswell, a poor one-eyed old man, in a white flannel jacket, was lately brought before a Magistrate, by the constable of St. Clement Danes, charged with *begging* in the streets of that parish. The following is the substance of his examination:—Magistrate—"What are you?" Old man—"Me, sir? I'm a *translator*, regular bred and born; ever since I lost my right eye, when I was a lad." Magistrate—"A translator! What a translator of *languages*!" Old man—"No, sir, *leather*. That is, I translates old shoes into as good as new ones almost." Magistrate—"Oh! then you are what is usually called a *cobbler*?" Old man—"Yes, your worship, by low people; and those as has had no *education*; *vulgar* folks, and all them ere." Magistrate—(*laughing*)—"Well, but cobbling and translating, as you call it, is a never failing trade; how came you, then, to be begging in the streets?" Old man—"Why your worship, translating is good for nothing since new shoes am come to be so desperate cheap. Suppose your worship's shoes wanted mending, thy'd cost you a matter of 4*s.* 6*d.* to have 'em well soled, heeled, and welted; and they'd be but old shoes after all; and by putting another shilling, or so, to the money, you might buy a capital pair of *new* ones; and so, your worship, my trade was knocked up; and I was translated from *cobbling*, as your worship calls it, to *begging*." Magistrate—"Then why don't you take to making new shoes?" Old man—"Because, your worship, I have but one eye; and that is'n't a very good one." Magistrate—"In that case, I suppose, the best thing I can do for you; will be to *translate* you to a prison; and from thence to your parish." Old man—"Thank your worship, kindly. It's the very favour I was going to ask you. I'm sure I sha'n't lose much by that *translation*, for with all my begging, I've got but one poor penny to-day." He was accordingly ordered to be regularly passed to his parish at Bermondsey.

**Thief Trap.**—A Birmingham Paper says—"On Monday week, (May 7) in the evening, as the constable of the night was walking his round near Lancaster-street, he saw the wooden shutter of a cellar window lifted up, a voice from under it, at the same time calling out—"All's well."—"Yes," said the constable, jumping upon the shutter—"All is right and safe," and immediately springing his rattle, brought several watchmen to his aid. On knocking up the inmates of the house, who were fast asleep, they examined the cellar, when in a corner they found the rogue, who had been employed in conveying to his confederates on the outside, tobacco, cheese, &c. which he had found in the cellar; he was conveyed to our prison."

**Donations.**—The late John Watkins, Esq. of Ditton, near Liverpool, has left by will 1000*l.* to the Infirmary at Liverpool; 1000*l.* to the Blue Coat Hospital; 900*l.* to the Blind Asylum; 1000*l.* to the Infirmary at Chister; and no less than 25,000*l.* for the further endowment and additional support to the Blue Coat Hospital at Warrington; besides many smaller benefactions.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

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### The Courier Dove.

Written, at the desire of a Lady, under an Engraving which represented  
a Girl fastening a Letter to the neck of a Pigeon.

"Vas, porter cet écrit à l'objet de mon cœur!"

Outstrip the winds, my courier dove!  
On pinions fleet and free,  
And bear this letter to my love  
Who's far away from me.

It bids him mark thy plume, whereon  
The changing colours range;  
But warns him that my peace is gone  
If he shou'd, also, change.  
  
It tells him thou return'st again  
To her who set thee free;—  
And O! it asks the truant, when  
He'll thus resemble thee?



Roman Altar.

In April last, in an orchard, in the holding of Mr. Faulkner, in Further Boughton, near Chester, a Roman Altar, in an excellent state of preservation, was found. It is about four feet high, with a shallow basin on the top, supported by two volutes. The shaft of the column is four sided; on two of its sides is the following inscription:

NYMPHIS  
ET  
FONTIBVS  
LEG. XX.  
VV.

in extended characters, *Nymphis et Fontibus Legione Vicessima valente vtrici;* which may be thus Englished, *Dedicated to the Goddesses of the Waters and to the Spirits of the Fountains, by the Soldiers of the Twentieth Legion, the powerful, the conquering.*

It appears that Chester was the seat of the Twentieth Legion, or *Legio Vicessima valens vtrix;* and although it might possibly have been anteriorly a British station, there is little doubt of its having been fortified by Aestorius Scapula, for the protection of the Roman army, after the defeat and capture of Caractacus, in A. D. 50. According to which this altar has been placed in its present situation somewhere about 1800 years. The ground near to where it was formed has been considerably underdrained, so as to drain off the upper waters, but there can be little doubt, that, at the above date, this site abounded with springs and wells of water. At the introduction of Christianity into our island, this altar was most probably overthrown; it was found lying on one side, and the heaps of clay thrown over it, as may be now seen. Various remains of antiquity have been found on the spot, as pieces of Roman pottery, &c.

—Chester Guardian.

### Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1821.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROSECUTION OF LIBELS AGAINST THE STATE.

Mr BROUGHAM said he was anxious to take the opportunity afforded to him by a Petition being presented for an alteration in the Criminal Law, to complain of another alteration in the Criminal Laws, not made upon the sound and constitutional principles of his honorable and learned friend (Sir J. Mackintosh), but upon principles and with feelings which justly created serious alarm in the public mind. He alluded to the inroad made upon that which, if not the exclusive right, had at least been the general practice of his Majesty's Attorney and Solicitors-General—the proceeding officially against all persons guilty of offences against the Church or State. He did not mean to contend that by law this right was vested solely in the Solicitor and Attorney General, for he held that by law any man could proceed against another for a public offence; at least after the many Associations which had been entered into for prosecutions for felony, it was not now necessary to raise the question. Those Associations were, however, confined to the punishment of private felonies, or offences of an odious nature, such as those prosecuted by the societies; for instance, exhibiting and selling obscene pictures or books;—and of this Society he would here say, that even if it had created considerable alarm in the public mind; it was not, however, his province to give his opinion upon it further than observing, that by confining itself solely to the punishment of those offences into which no political or religious feelings could enter, it had not only done less mischief than was apprehended, but had been productive of some good to the community. But here was an Association of a totally different nature—an Association prosecuting and punishing for political offences (*hear, hear.*) Here was a power claimed to be exercised under the direction, and according to the dictates of party feelings. It was an Association supported by a common fund, and without giving to the public any single individual who was to be responsible for their acts (*hear, hear.*). To be sure, a great mass of names were given to the public; among those names were to be found many of the very first respectability, and to those persons he meant at present to address the language of expostulation only. He was aware that many of those Gentlemen had entered into this Association with the purest and most disinterested motives, and without being aware into what hands they had intrusted the credit and influence of their great names; he would put it to any man who was connected with the Government, and who entertained strong Tory principles in Church and State, whether private individuals ought to be allowed to proceed against persons libelling the Government of the country? He was aware that instances of libel might occur, where it would not only be the duty of Government not to prosecute, but where a prosecution would be productive of the greatest mischief, in bringing the author before the public. Who then, he would ask, ought to be the accusers in cases of libel against the state? Was it to be the Officers of the Crown, or was the business to be left to one or two Attorneys, at whose disposal those funds were, and who were reckless both of the expence incurred, and of the consequences of their conduct (*hear, hear.*) It had been held by many, that the power vested in the Attorney General was one of so high and dangerous a nature, that it ought to be exercised by no one, who was not under sufficient control. But here was a power exercised by a set of private individuals without control, without responsibility, and of the results of whose proceedings no opinion could pretend to judge, unless that House exercised its influence to check them (*hear, hear.*) He had already said, he knew that several of the signatures were those of highly respectable persons, and he believed that many of those persons had been drawn into this association from a wish to protect the religion of the country. He for one would rather see those offences prosecuted by the proper Officers of the Crown, than by such an Association as that which he had described. He did not wish to see prosecutions for offences against religion conducted by persons actuated by that spirit peculiar to different sects and forms of worship.—One word more respecting the class of persons whose names appeared on this list—there appeared the names of no less than 40 Peers connected with it, and undoubtedly they must have joined it unintentionally and without consideration (*hear, hear.*) What! 40 of the Judges of the realm in the last resort, becoming prosecutors; surely they could not have for a moment reflected upon what they were doing. There was not any one offence prosecuted by this Society upon which those Noble Lords might not be called upon ultimately to decide. It was true that Peers might have become, in some instances, Members of Associations for prosecuting felons (and this mode of prosecution would not perhaps be tolerated, were it not that it became necessary, from the poverty of the parties robbed, or from their unwillingness to prefer charges from a fear of being bound over to prosecute), but that was a different case, there the Jury at once decides the guilt or innocence of the party,

whereas in a case of libel, the question, after a trial in the Courts below, might be brought under the consideration of those very Peers who were prosecutors in the case (*hear, hear.*) He was fully sure that if this had struck those Noble Lords, they would never have become Members of the association in question. He should not be surprised to find that Counter-Associations were formed to repel the attacks of this one, but this would afford no remedy, and would only tend to put an end in a short time to all political discussion (*hear, hear.*)

The Petition was laid on the Table.

### Standard of Money.

#### THE PROPOSED REDUCTION OF THE STANDARD OF THE CURRENCY CONSIDERED AS A MEANS OF RELIEVING THE PUBLIC DISTRESSES.

"Whatever may be the fate of future times, and whatever the exigencies of affairs may require, it is to be wished that that awkward, clandestine, and most direful method of cancelling debts, by debasing the standard of money, will be the last that shall be thought of."—HARRIS.

To make any direct alteration in the terms of the contracts entered into between different individuals, would be a degree of bare-faced oppression, and of wanton and unjustifiable interference with the rights of property that could not be tolerated. Those, therefore, who have hitherto endeavoured to enrich one part of society at the expense of another, have found it necessary to act with greater reserve. They have not, indeed, relinquished their purpose, but they have been obliged to substitute the dexterity and cunning of the practised cheat, for open and avowed injustice. Instead of altering the stipulations in contracts, they have ingeniously bethought themselves of altering the *standard* by a reference to which these stipulations had been adjusted! They have not said that 10 or 20 per cent. shall be added to, or deducted from the mutual debts and obligations of society, but they have silently and really done the same thing, by making a proportionable change in the value of the currency. Men, in their bargains, do not stipulate for signs or measures of value, but for real equivalents. Money is not merely the standard by a comparison with which the relative value of commodities is ascertained at any given period; but it is also the equivalent, by the delivery of a fixed amount of which, the stipulations in almost all contracts and engagements may be discharged. It is plain, therefore that no variation can take place in its value without essentially affecting all these stipulations. Every addition to the value of money must make a corresponding addition to the debts of the state, and of every individual; and every diminution of its value must make a corresponding diminution of these debts. Suppose that, owing to an increased difficulty of production, or to an increase in the quantity of bullion contained in coins of the same denomination, the value of money is raised 20 per cent. it is plain that 20 per cent. is in consequence added to all the various sums in which one part of society is indebted to the other part. Though the nominal rent of the farmer, for example is not increased by this means, its *real* rent is increased. He continues to pay the same number of pounds or livres as formerly; but the pound or the livre is become more valuable, and requires the sacrifice of one fifth part more of labour, of corn, or of any other commodity whose value has remained constant, to obtain in them.

But notwithstanding it is thus obviously necessary, in order to prevent the pernicious subversion of private fortunes, and the falsifying of all precedent contracts, that the standard of money when once fixed should be religiously kept inviolate, there is nothing that has been more frequently changed. We do not here allude to those variations which affect the value of the material of which the standard itself is composed, and against which it is impossible to guard, but to the changes which have been made in the quantity of that material contained in the same nominal sum of money. In every country in Europe debtors have been enriched at the expense of their creditors. The necessities of Princes have forced them to borrow, and, in order to relieve themselves from the incumbrances they had contracted, they have almost universally had recourse to the disgraceful expedient of degrading the coin; that is of cheating those who had lent them money to the extent of the degradation, and of enabling every other debtor in their dominions to do the same. In England, for 234 years after the Norman invasion, a pound in money was also a pound in weight, or, which is the same thing, a pound weight of silver was coined into 20 shillings. In the reign of EDWARD I, the standard was for the first time changed: And having been once violated, it was gradually debased, until, in 1601, in the reign of ELIZABETH, 62s. were coined out of a pound. This was a reduction of above two thirds in the standard; so that all the stipulations in contracts entered into in the reigns immediately subsequent to the conquest, might, in 1601, and since, be legally discharged by the payment of less than one third of the sums that had been really bargained for.

In Scotland the reduction of the standard was carried to a far greater extent; the pound weight of silver, which had, previously to 1296, been coined into 20s. being, in 1601 coined into 720s. In France\*, Spain, and other continental states, the reduction was even greater than in Scotland.

It is unnecessary to enumerate in detail the various bad consequences that must have resulted from these changes in the standard of value. Every measure which has any tendency to derange the natural distribution of property, or to enrich debtors at the expense of their creditors, or *vise versa*, is necessarily injurious. Nor did these wild and arbitrary measures really relieve the embarrassments of the Governments by whom they were resorted to. Their debts were, it is true reduced in proportion to the reduction in the value of the currency, but their revenues were also reduced in the same proportion. A degraded piece of money will not exchange for the same quantity of commodities. To whatever extent the standard of the currency may be reduced, prices are instantly raised to precisely the same extent. Suppose the degradation is 10 per cent. the Government will henceforth, be compelled to pay £110 for those commodities which it might previously have obtained for £100. To bring the same real value into the coffers of the treasury, it is necessary that taxation should be increased whenever the standard is diminished,—a measure always odious, and sometimes, perhaps, in countries unprovided with a *taxing machine*, impracticable. But this is not the only bad effect which governments experience from tampering with the standard of the currency. A State which has degraded its money, and cheated its creditors, is unable to borrow again on the same favourable terms as if it had acted with perfect good faith. We cannot expect to enjoy the reputation of honesty at the same moment that we are openly pocketing the booty earned by duplicity and treachery. Those who lend money to knaves, always stipulate for a proportionably high rate of interest. They must not only obtain as much as they could obtain from the most secure investments, but they must also obtain an additional rate or premium sufficient to cover the risk they run in transacting with those who have given proofs of bad faith, and on whose promises no reliance can be placed. A degradation of the coin is, therefore, of all others the most wretched resource of a bankrupt government. It will never, indeed, be resorted to except by those who are alike unprincipled and ignorant. When the incumbrances of a State are greater than it can bear, a fair, open, and avowed bankruptcy, is always the preferable mode, of proceeding. "The honour of a State," says Dr. SMITH, "is surely very poorly provided for when, in order to cover the disgrace of a real bankruptcy, it has recourse to a juggling trick of this kind, so easily seen through, and at the same time so extremely pernicious."

The odium and positive disadvantage attending the degradation of the coin, appear to have at length induced almost all governments to abstain from it. They have, however, only renounced one mode of playing at fast and loose with the property of their subjects, to adopt another and still more pernicious one. The injustice, which was formerly done by diminishing the quantity of bullion contained in the coins of different countries, is now perpetrated with greater ease, and to a still more ruinous extent, by the depreciation of their paper currency.

In the long period from 1601 to 1797, no change was made in the standard of the currency in this country. In 1797, however, a power was given to the Directors of the Bank of England, to issue notes not convertible into coin at the pleasure of the holders, and which notes were not long after made a legal tender in all money transactions. In consequence of this act, the check which cash payments had formerly kept on the issues of the Bank was entirely set aside. The Directors were enabled to exchange bits of engraved paper, worth no more perhaps than 5s. a quire, for as many, or the value of as many hundreds of thousands of pounds. And in such circumstances, our only wonder is, that paper money became depreciated, but that its value was no more degraded—that a still greater quantity of bank notes were not thrust into circulation.

For several years after the restriction, the Directors, ignorant perhaps of the immense power which had been placed in their hands, seem to have regulated their issues nearly on the same principles that they had regulated them by while they were obliged to pay in coin. It appears from the tables of the price of bullion, published by order of the House of Commons, that until 1809 bank notes were on a par with gold. In 1809 and 1810 they were at a discount of about 8½ per cent.; but they again recovered their value, and from 1802 to 1808 they were only at a discount of from 2½ to 4½ or 5 percent. In 1809, however, the Bank of England made a very great addition to its issues; and in that and the five following years, bank notes were at a discount, as compared with gold, varying from 1½ to 28 per cent. The importation of foreign corn subsequent

\* One of the kings of France, Philip of Valois, debased his coins by intermixing with them an extra quantity of alloy, and made the officers and workmen of the mint swear on the Evangelists to keep the secret!—See *Le Blanc, Traité Historique des Monnaies*, p. 251.

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to the opening of the Dutch ports in 1814, by occasioning a great decline in the price of agricultural produce, produced much distress among the farmers, and consequently among the country bankers. In 1814 and 1815, no fewer than 240 of these establishments stopped payment; and the reduction which thus occasioned in the quantity of paper raised its value so rapidly, that in January 1816 the discount on bank notes was reduced to 5*1*/<sub>2</sub> per cent. In October of that same year, the discount was so low as £1: 8: 7; it subsequently, in January 1819, rose to near 6 per cent.; but it very soon declined; and for the last two years, the value of paper has been on a level with that of gold.

Nothing that has ever happened in the history of the country has proved more injurious to its best interests than those fluctuations. From 1809 to 1815, landlords who had let their estates, stockholders, and annuitants of all descriptions, all in short who could not raise the nominal amount of their incomes proportionably to the fall in the real value of money, were robbed of a corresponding portion of them. The injustice that in a different state of things would have been done to the creditors of the State and of individuals, who had made their loans in gold or paper equivalent to gold, by raising the denomination of the coin, however gross and palpable, would not have been greater than was actually done in compelling them to receive payment in depreciated paper. But the mischief occasioned by the sudden reduction of the paper currency, and the consequent rapid augmentation of its value, has been still greater than what had previously been caused by its depreciation. The hardship occasioned by the change in the debts and credits of individuals might be in both cases nearly equal. A vast amount of *public debt* was, however, contracted during those years in which the depreciation was greatest; and the State is now paying this debt borrowed when the bank note was not worth more than 14*s*. or 15*s*. with bank notes whose value is increased to 28*s*. All those taxes, too, which were imposed when the currency was thus depreciated, must now, though not nominally, be really increased in the same proportion; so that when sufficient allowance is made for the difference in the value of money, it will be found that the country was less heavily burdened in 1815 and 1814, than it is at this moment, though we have since got rid of the income tax—a tax which produced about 14 millions a-year!

Such is but a brief and imperfect outline of the very great and almost irreparable injury which the late fluctuations in the value of the currency have entailed on the country. And yet, strange to tell, we are not satisfied with this *hocus-pocus juggling*—with this transference of property from the pockets of those who justly ought to possess it, to the pockets of those who have no right to it whatever! We are now told, that not a part only, but *all* the distresses of the country have been occasioned by the late rise in the value of the currency; and we are called upon to vitiate all the contracts that have been made during the last five years, in order properly to adjust those that were made during the preceding five! We admit, indeed, that after a currency has been for a *considerable period* depreciated, equal injustice is done by again raising its value, as was formerly done by degrading it. But this is not our case. Our currency has for about five years been nearly at its mint standard; and, to avoid the hardship occasioned by the late increase of value, the standard should have been reduced so far back as 1815. It is now too late to think of it—the time when it would have been advisable has been suffered to go by. To degrade it now, would be as injurious to the *creditors in all contracts and stipulations entered into since 1815*, as it would be advantageous to the debtors in those entered into in the five or six years ending with 1815.

It must be recollect'd, that however pernicious variations in the value of money may be—and we have shewn that they are most pernicious—still in so far as they only rob one producer to enrich another producer, they do not lessen the capital of the country, or impair its means of employing labour. The landlords and others who borrowed during the depreciation of the currency, are now certainly suffering very severely; but as what is lost by them must be gained by their creditors, the State is not necessarily rendered either richer or poorer. It is the addition which the rise in the value of the currency has made to the public debt, and to the oppressiveness of taxation, that forms the only tenable and firm ground on which a reduction of the standard can be defended. But why, in order to reduce the debt, have recourse to this paltry expedient? Why not act openly? Why not reduce the interest in proportion to the depreciation at the time the loans were made? Why vitiate every contract that has been entered into during the last five years, for the sake of effecting that which might be much better effected otherwise?

We have always been of opinion, that those stockholders who lent the country depreciated paper, or paper from 10 to 30 per cent. less valuable than bullion, have no fair or just claim to be paid the entire amount of their debts in undepreciated paper. What right have the stockholders to demand payment of 100 ounces of gold bullion, if they only lent 70 or 80 ounces? If indeed the country had been extremely flourishing—if we could have afforded to be generous as well as just—we should

not have objected to such profuse liberality. But, in our present circumstances, when the pressure of an exorbitant taxation is overpowering and deadening all the springs of industry, it would be the height of folly and of madness to sanction such a ridiculous waste of the national resources. This is a case in which necessity and policy conspire alike to induce us to act on the just maxim of the civil law. *Valor moneta considerandus atque inspicendum est a tempore contractus. non ceterum a tempore solutionis.* But why commence a just and necessary measure of this kind by an act of positive injustice and hardship to individuals? When we have reduced the interest of the debt, and the debt itself, according to the difference between the value of the currency in which it was contracted, and that in which it is paid, we have given *all* the relief to the country which it could possibly derive from reducing the standard to its level in 1815 and 1814. And we accomplish this openly and (fairly and) without occasioning that wide-spread confusion and subversion of private fortunes, which the reduction of the standard from its present limit would infallibly produce.

We cannot conclude this article without noticing the strange inconsistency into which Mr. BARING has fallen in his reasonings on this subject. He is quite indignant at the hints which have been thrown out in the House respecting a reduction of the dividends, and yet he is, notwithstanding, the great patron of the currency! Now, as it is certain that a reduction of the standard would occasion a corresponding reduction of the public debt, Mr. BARING is in truth endeavouring to accomplish that, by a pitiful subterfuge, which he affects publicly to depreciate. We trust however, that the House of Commons will indignantly reject this dishonest scheme; and that they will never consent to couple a measure which ought to be adopted for its own sake, which is highly expedient, and which involves no breach of faith with the public creditor, with the robbery of all the *private creditors* in all the engagements entered into during the last five years.—*Scotsman, May 12, 1821.*

### Theatrical Examiner.

#### DRURY-LANE.

*Iterum ac sapius*:—another and another still succeeds. Time was, when—had any one thought it worth while—it might have been said, as *Homo* is a common name for all men that “an Opera is a Play, but a Play is not an Opera.”\* The Managers of our Theatres are however fast changing all that: and we may yet live to hear the Moor rehearse his mighty griefs, accompanied by the trombone, and sing “Othello’s occupation’s gone” to the air of the “Soldier tired.” Cassio may clink the cannikin “to its own tune,” and the gentle lady run divisions on roses and myrtle-bowers, not forgetting a green willow, and die, as is befitting in a *Cadenza*. All this to prove incontestably the English a musical people!

Having seen them slashing with their desperate hooks among the stores of the elder drama, and filling up the mighty void with sound, we now find them descending to clip “the sterling comedy of COLLEY CIBBER”—(as the bills gratuitously term it)—*She would and She would not*; which, curtailed of its fair proportions, appeared on Tuesday evening as an opera, under the additional disguise of an alias (*The Kind Impostor*) provided with remarkable foresight by its author.

We say “foresight,” but could poor COLLEY have foreseen this declaration, it were the unkindest cut of all, and—though his elastic *guile de cœur* closed like the air upon its wounds, and healed itself—he had many to encounter.

But CIBBER has been wronged. We allude not here to these modern instances—wherein he must take traveller’s fare with better company—but to the heaped up injury of more than a century. Positive injustice was done him by his contemporaries, to which their descendants have, by delaying reparation, implicitly been accessories. Hands, indeed, within the walls of a theatre have given—we may say it—unwitting testimony to his merit; but tongues and pens have been wanting, and prescriptive opinion has continued to hold away *par habitude*, where even judgment was convinced. His idea has been associated in the mind with that of impossible vanity, his name a synonyme with the arrogant pretence of dulness! This he owes to Pope, who—from an unfounded suspicion easily explained away—but pricked to it more by Jacobite jealousy, having failed where the other excelled; and by Whig prejudice disliking the Whig even more than the Laureat, dethroned his first adopted Hero in the *Dunciad* and raised to that bad eminence the luckless COLLEY CIBBER. Truth and candour were here

\* BEN JONSON excited the spleenetic censure of his contemporaries for his presumed presumption in styling his plays “Works”—but Latin was then more understood than Italian.

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violated. The statue was not suited to the niche, nor could all the Poet's cutting and contriving adapt the letter to his purpose; nay, he even maimed the structure in the attempt.

CINBER's filial affinity with "the Mighty Mother" is not traceable in what has survived him—and it is with what an author has proved he could achieve that we have to do, or fame would be yet more problematical—but we own we have not had the heart to read his tragedies, which, if our impressions deceive us not, himself gives up in his candid "Apology," even as we most readily do his Sermon, in five acts, *The Lady's last Stake.*" His German origin—we would be understood with reference to the modern acceptance—might be more easily indicated in the occasional mawkishness of make-weight sentiment.

Few of his persons but have something of this exigent propensity; and they invariably suggest the idea of an extended arm and leg, (like Trim reading the Sermon) they sound drum and trumpet—a note of preparation—but a discord remains, and unresolved, for it was out of place. This however was greatly "the fault of the time"—that ready rectifier of individual obliquity—and thereof probably something hereafter. We hope to be excused for these "more last words" (always with due reservation of "more still") on a subject only almost exhausted but an occasion to adjust the scales is not to be resisted—every grain is of value! And so is our paper. After all, as will be supposed, the comedy could not easily be so altered as to lose its attraction. The subtle spirit has not escaped in transmutation; and if we condemn the spoilers (for so some will have it) we partook of the spoil with much zest. This acknowledged, it cannot be dissembled that the original had certain pruriences which long called for the knife: and although the skilful surgeons have cut away sans remorse, the vital principle remains in vigour. The performance was repeated on Friday, and we may add with increased approbation.

We cannot speak in good terms of the music, which, except the concerted piece in the first act, is but mediocre, and is so far suitable to the songs. Of the acknowledged adaptations we like best the *caratina* sung by HORN, which reminded us of the elegance of ROSSINI, and the *Brouillerie* at the close of the second act.

Mr. T. COOKE's song to a quadrille air was inefficient, and he seemed to feel it.

Those who remember in her best days the prime favourite of THALIA, when HOPPER drew her picture as *Hypolita*, will recall to mind the plaudits that pursued her to the green-room, and sigh once more at the dreariness of her final exit. In Madame VESTRIS' performance of this character, we missed that delicate struggle between lingering coquetry, love, and maiden bashfulness, when she resumes the woman, which the part is susceptible of. Ably supported by Miss CUBITT as *Flora*, she left, however, as would be anticipated, little to desire in point of animation. Who by the bye, on these occasions, can help thinking at least on that bitter-sweet of POPE—"Every woman is at heart a siren!" MUNDEN's *Dow Mancil* will be well remembered; it cannot be too well known, for we should make much of him. We hesitate not to rank it among the happiest of his efforts. The character has considerable variety, the gradations of which he distinguished with his accustomed fidelity and success. Upon the whole it was correctly conceived, richly coloured, and finished to a touch. "Honest Trapponi," who only displeases when we suspect him of intending to become so, one might think had been meant for HARLEY in the spirit of prophecy (spirit of JEREMY COLLIER rest in peace!) did we not know that the stage, their proper element, has never wanted personators of the lively race, from JOE HAYNER downwards.

\* Some plain truths therein about equality of right in wedlock, may, nevertheless, be read even now with advantage.

### Catholic Emancipation.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

Permit me to send for insertion in your JOURNAL, the following exquisite Verses printed in the London JOHN BULL. They will greatly delight the OFFICER who has lately written a Letter in the CALCUTTA JOURNAL, to shew the dangers of Catholic Emancipation. If there are still any persons who are insensible to his powerful reasoning, and who prefer to go wrong with Pitt, Windham, Fox, Burke, Grattan, Canning, and a host of others, to joining the select few, who, with Lord Siomonth, Bishop Tomline, and the OFFICER, can smell out a gunpowder plot afar off, and descry the very seeds of danger, I doubt not but their feelings will bring them to the side of truth, if they will only read this "Song of Terror."

Here the most unfeeling bosom must be shocked at the horrors which will immediately ensue from Catholic Emancipation!—their forcing us to worship "Saints in Velvet," their "whipping Protestant Parsons," "broiling Bishops," and compelling the whole population to fast "every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday," are enough to rack any mind of sensibility. The Poet indeed doth not explain by what artifice the Protestant Majority of the people of England are to be *dragoneed* into suffering all these cruelties at the hands of a Catholic Minority. This is rather the province of the Prose Writer; and I doubt not but the OFFICER will yet supply this material link in his reasonings upon this momentous topic.

I am, Sir, Your's, &c.  
Calcutta, Oct. 16, 1821.

SCRAP.

### CATHOLIC EMANCIPATION.

TUNE.—*St. Patrick's Day in the Morning.*

A plague on these Papists, they'll make such a bother,  
When once they've converted their Bill to an Act,  
They'll always be teasing for something or other,

Concessions no quiet will purchase;  
What though we give them Army—Navy—  
What though we give them Law and State;  
We ne'er shall dissuade 'em,  
Till Judges we've made 'em;  
And, when they're appointed, and duly anointed,  
Be-wigged, and be-robed, with a Catholic oath,  
They'll tell us, that still they're oppressed—disappointed,  
And must have a touch at our Churches.

Trust not, my friends, to their cringing and lowliness:  
(Much like the Queen's in her note to the King)  
Set them once free, and for praise from his Holiness,

England's tranquillity's barter'd.  
Then, with their signs, and shrines, and shrivings,  
Starving on fish, and stews, and eggs,  
With vespers and matins,  
And Saints in rich satins,  
They'll touch up their Lordships of Durham and Winchester,  
London, and Ely, and Archy of York;  
They'll light up their fires, and make their hot pinchers stir,  
England's poor Church will be martyrs.

Every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday,  
Well must we fast by the rules of the Church;  
What's meat on the former, is death on the latter day,  
He who eats mutton is undone;

Then, on our knees to Saints in velvet,  
Kissing the stumps they stand upon,  
Cutting strange capers,  
And sticking up tapers,

And, just as the vespers chime in with their merry tricks,  
Domine Francis drops in for a call;  
And takes us to Smithfield, to see a few Heretics,  
Burnt for the glory of London!

Then, upon Sundays, and ev'ry Church festival,  
Singing, and dancing, and op'ras, and plays,  
Will drive the folks mad, while the Priests, as the test of all,  
Give them a Holy ablation:

Protestant Parsons whipp'd and scoff'd at,

Quakers and Methodists thump'd and ston'd,

A night-joke to dish up,

They'll broil you a Bishop,

And then pay their Priest; for in their road to Heaven, pence

Serve them as well as at Kingsbridge or Kew;

His Rev'rence sends off to Rome, two and sevenpence,

Home comes a full absolution!

Then Britons, since well with your Creed has the law fitted,  
Why should you change what you'll hardly amend?

Or, why, of the rights men have legally forfeited,

Make such a free restitution?

Think of the whips, the stakes, the torture—

Think of the thumb-crews, faggots, and flames:

The point they are winning,

Is but the beginning;

Then this is the time for Old England's defenders

To make a firm stand for the good of the cause;

And, while we've a King—let no Popes, or pretenders,

Lay hands on our dear Constitution!

JOHN BULL.

# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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## Indian Idolatry.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

Though it is evident that the Natives of British India enjoy many advantages from the British being the Sovereigns of the country; yet one of the great disadvantages which they labour under from our rule, is, that from an unfounded suspicion of danger, in any attempt to enlighten and evangelize India, we have as Politicians gone to an extreme beyond moderation,—to an extreme of (at least apparent) indifference to the happiness of our subjects: and perhaps at this day, had we not been the Rulers of the Country, some of the descendants of the Native Princes who used to patronise Christianity and the Christian Missionaries centuries ago, would in this more enlightened age have embraced the Christian faith; and in a true Christian spirit, without any coercion, without any intolerance, without any bribing, or using any false, undue, unscriptural, uncharitable or unlawful means, to accomplish the end, would have promoted, supported, and countenanced, the dissemination of Christianity, which the British Government in India, on principles of policy (true or false) (time will shew) have never done; and humanly speaking would perhaps have been made instrumental to promoting the best interests of their subjects, by bringing them to a knowledge of the road to the only real and permanent happiness. A part of the wealth and of the talent of the country, would have been devoted to the disseminating of the truth among the people (as well as the knowledge of the Arts and Sciences,) by means of Preachers of the Gospel, by the publication of the Word of God, and of well-written, judicious tracts, and of plain, elementary and other works on the Arts and Sciences; and also by the Establishment of Schools in every village in the country, and by giving encouragement to men of Science and Literature. The example of one independent and enlightened Prince might thus have had the happiest effect on the neighbouring States.

The History of India shews that there have been constant religious changes among the Hindoos, and that many centuries ago, Christianity (instance the proofs given in the volume of the Asiatic Researches,) was much more prevalent throughout India than it is at this day.

By superintending and controlling, and steadily supporting the Native religious feasts and ceremonies, establishments, and expences, by rebuilding their pagodas and chariots, and granting them endowments, we have given them an existence, a regularity and stability, which under the former Governments, the Natives allow was not known. Their superstitions must be permanent, humanly speaking, as long as we rule the Country, at least, on this plan. I have heard the Natives declare that the interest which the British take in the preservation of Idolatry, convinced them that we thought the Hindoo Religion a very good one; and that it was by some of us esteemed as good as our own; but that we kept it up chiefly for the sake of the Revenue, which we received from it at the great places of worship. Now to give every Religion equal advantage, would it be considered intolerant or asking too much in favor of Christianity, that the Idolatry of the heathen should be left to itself; and that by our interference, it should not bear the stamp of Public Authority?

Our example as professing Christians in many respects has been injurious to the Natives of India. Are we not then bound to do every thing in our power to counteract, by every wise and tolerant means, the evil we have done? No other means would answer. It is as impossible as the attempt would be unchristian to coerce opinion. Do we derive (if not all) the greatest part of the Revenue and wealth in the country, and should we not devote a part thereof to the dissemination of knowledge of all kinds among our subjects? and if we do not, is not our Dominion inevitably detrimental to the progress of truth among them, and consequently to the highest interests of India? For the mode of our Government (all the high situations being held by Europeans,) has left them too poor to join in Societies, as individuals do in England, to promote among their country-men, Religion, Morals, and Education, a knowledge of the Arts and Sciences, or to give their

children liberal educations, or for any individuals among them to print large editions of the Holy Scriptures, of useful Books or translations, or tracts on any useful works: and may not these by whom they have been deprived of the means, do all this for them?

Our Government is even now a blessing, and I doubt not will ultimately prove an unspeakable blessing to them, though the reason which brought the most of us to India—and it was a lawful cause—is well known, Providence will over rule it to his own glory and the People's good. But let us, both high and low, recollect that we are placed as lights among a People who are living in the greatest ignorance of Religion and its Laws, aliens, strangers to heavenly things, without God in the world; perishing, it must be feared, generation after generation, for lack of that knowledge which we might communicate; dishonouring that God, whom we might teach them to glorify, and frustrating the work of that Saviour, which through our instrumentality they might find availling to their salvation. And what have we done in the great work?

"The Word of God is the Sword of the Spirit." It is the main instrument by which the barrier of infidelity is to be pierced, the strong holds of sin and Satan to be pulled down, and the conquests of our religion to be attained. But unless this sword of the spirit have the temper given to it which will suit the nature of each material it is intended to penetrate, it will fall to the ground, a pointless ineffectual weapon. Unless this word be introduced to the Natives of each country in their own tongue, it will hardly enter the mind or reach the heart.

Give the Bible thus prepared to the care of Native Catechists and Readers, and let them go forth and present it to the consciences and judgement of the millions in the British dominions in India. It will then be placed in open and fair competition with the Koran and Vathams; and we shall see whether the Almighty will not own His own work again, as it was before Dagon, and in the temple of Baal. So says one of our Divines.

But some will say, leave the work entirely to the Natives: don't interfere. To this it may be answered, that the present system of Government has left them too poor to make any extraordinary efforts for their improvement. The great body of the People find it difficult to maintain themselves, and there are few rich persons among them. It is necessary, also, first of all, that they should be put in the way of knowing the advantages of Christianity before they can be expected to deprive themselves of their property to support it. Can they consider it to be so necessary to their happiness when they see those who ought to act otherwise apparently so little alive to the duty of propagating it, that they keep back that support which they might have imparted and even retard its progress by their measures. There is not, I suppose, half a dozen Presses under the superintendance of Natives throughout the whole of India; and what is that among 80 millions of people?

I fear that it will at a future day, be found that selfishness is the root of most of the unfounded suspicions and alarms, which satisfy many, that they are justified in not using their influence, power, wealth, and talents, in attempting to enlighten India. As professing Christians, we should be obliged to act in many respects towards the Natives in a different manner from what we do, were they also professing Christians. But to return to our patronizing Idolatry: I recollect having many years ago seen a Proclamation in the Native Languages, by a Public Officer (which put me in mind of a Bill of a Play) publishing, to the best of my recollection, that the Idol of a certain Pagoda had received some new vehicle or dresses, that some new ceremonies were to be performed at the Pagoda, which had not been performed before for years, and inviting the people, far and near, to come and worship.

In those days, I believe, the Collectors of the Revenue drew a Commission on the Collections received by the British Government from some of the Hindoo Pagodas? Nothing could be proved more easily than that such collections are an annual loss of Revenue to Government.

AN OLD INDIAN.

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**Radicalism.***To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

SIR,

In my former Letter, inserted in the *Journal* of the 21st of July, I attempted to delineate the character of the party that now direct, and have for many years past directed, the counsels of the British Government, and are known by the name of "Tories." This I intended to have followed up, by contrasting them with their opponents the Whigs; but finding, on further reflection, that the latter party stand between two extreme factions, from both of which it is equally necessary to distinguish them, it appeared necessary in the first place to consider the character of that third party called "Radicals." The use of this appellation, which has been applied to them by their enemies as a term of reproach, may at first sight promise no great degree of impartiality; but although I have an aversion to nicknames, I use this term because of its convenience in distinguishing the party to whom it is applied from the Whigs, who are also Reformers.

Radicalism, or rather Radical Reform, has nothing in it, as far as the meaning of the word goes, to which any man can reasonably object. To Reform, society owes every thing that is most valuable. Without Reform we must have still been sunk in that gross superstition, which a few hundred years ago overspread almost the whole of Europe. It is not over-stretching analogy to infer, that persons who at this day declare themselves determined enemies to all general plans of Reform, would, had they lived in the time of Luther, or Calvin, or Knox, have displayed their loyalty to the then existing institutions, and their love of "social order," and "civil subordination," by zealously striving to bring these illustrious Reformers of other times to the stake. Without Reform, instead of living under the protection of our present glorious Constitution, we must have been still sunk in the most abject slavery, in a condition little superior to the brutes that graze the fields. An Englishman might still have worn the iron badge of slavery soldered round his neck, inscribed, "This is the born-thral of Cedric the Saxon," or of some other feudal Lord. When I reflect on the manifold advantages in Religion, in Laws, and in Government, we have derived from Reforms, I feel quite unable to account for it that any Briton of integrity and information can declare himself a determined enemy to all general plans of Reform.

All human knowledge is progressive: it is only by long experience and reflection, and by gradual improvements upon the discoveries and inventions of preceding generations, that man has reached to his present superiority. Every branch of knowledge has proceeded gradually, sometimes by slower and sometimes by quicker steps. Some sciences have been cultivated for thousands of years; and still, other geniuses rise up who enlarge their boundaries, adding something new to the labours of all their predecessors. Who will undertake to say then that in any one, far less in the Science of Government, perhaps the most difficult of all, we have now reached the acme of perfection? However much the present age may pride itself on its arts, sciences, and literature, we have no right to suppose that the field of improvement is now exhausted, and that future ages will not in every one of them proceed beyond the point now reached. With this belief, and that the greatest evils to which the human race are subject spring from defects in the theory and practice of government, I cannot but regard those who declare themselves to be "enemies to every kind of Reform," as declared enemies to the human race. It is the same thing as to declare that they prefer established vices and errors, merely because they are established, to a virtue and truth if characterised by innovation.

That Reform should take place where abuses are known to exist, few will be so absurd as to deny; so taking this point for granted, I shall shortly suggest a few reasons, why a Reform in our Political System, of the nature pointed out by the Radicals is now so eagerly called for. The excellence of our Glorious Constitution, I think, consists, not in its having actually reached absolute perfection at any given period; but in its capability of adapting itself to any circumstances in which the nation may

be placed; and in containing within itself the means of remedying every abuse to which it is liable. These are qualities, in my opinion, of inestimable value, and essential to every good and permanent system of polity. They however by no means render our Constitution perfect; they merely enable it to progress towards perfection.

While, through the wisdom and integrity of the Government, and the patriotism and intelligence of the people, the Constitution is made to expand or contract, according to the increase or diminution of the wealth, intelligence, and population, and in short to vary its several relations in exact correspondence with the varying circumstances of the country, it then displays all the perfection it is capable of attaining. But if, while every thing around is changing, it remains unaltered: if, while population wealth and intelligence are advancing, it remains stationary; it is every day diverging farther and farther from perfection. Like the shoes of the Chinese Ladies, which are made to fit them in their infancy, but not having the property of enlarging with their growth, they check the course of nature, and instead of protecting the feet from injury, are their prison and punishment. *Ne sutor ultra crepidam* was the Latin adage; but so miserably degenerated are modern politicians that even a Cobbler might by a familiar example drawn from his own profession, expose the ignorance of the botchers to whom is now entrusted the making and mending of Constitutions.

The Fundamental Principle of our Constitution is, that the Laws are made with the consent of the whole nation, given either personally or by their representatives. The King legislates in his own person; the Nobility partly in their own persons and partly by their Representatives; the People only by their Representatives in what is called the House of Commons, or House of the People. The manner in which the People are represented becomes to them, therefore, a matter of the very highest importance; for on this wholly depends whether or not they have their due share in the making of the Laws by which they are governed. From the above principle it follows, that every man has a right to vote for a Representative. This is the Rule, and I know, of only three limitations to its generality. 1. The right of suffrage is denied to those who are so dependent upon others as to be deemed to have no free will of their own. 2ndly, It may also justly be denied to those who are so imbecile or uninformed as to be altogether incapable of judging of the persons proper to be chosen for their Representatives. 3rdly, It ought in justice to be denied to those who have committed infamous crimes, such as perjury and giving or receiving bribes, that prove them unworthy to take any part in the sacred business of legislation.

The first exception, although it has also a more extensive application, applies particularly to the qualification of property, which is made necessary, we are assured by Blackstone, merely to secure the independence of the Voters. Property, as is well known to all, is of a fluctuating and transitory nature; it does not remain stationary at one town or village, nor, except entailed, hereditary for ever in one family. Unless therefore the right of suffrage be apportioned among the people according to the fluctuations of property, the equilibrium of the Constitution is destroyed. This has exactly happened; towns that formerly were flourishing and populous have decayed and are now nearly deserted; others have sprung up and rival even the capital in trade and population; but the Representation of these towns respectively in Parliament, instead of being adapted to these new circumstances, continues almost the same.

Thus a paltry village on the corner of a Gentleman's estate, the remains, it may be, of a considerable town, the inhabitants of which are all dependant on the Squire, sends up its two Members to Parliament; and such Members are impudently called "the virtual Representatives of the respectable body of the nation." On the other hand, large towns or rather cities, such as Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham and Leeds, contain a numerous, industrious and enlightened population, whose labour, enterprise, and ingenuity are the support of our trade and a great source of our national wealth, who have little or no share whatever in the Re-

presentation. These men are not so ignorant as not to perceive this monstrous injustice; and they would not deserve the name of Britons if the sight did not fill them with indignation. They lay their Petitions before the Legislature, praying that they may be admitted to participate in the rights that belong to them as Englishmen. The Legislature treat their just requests with scornful neglect; and because they manifest dissatisfaction, the advocates of Ministers load them with every species of insolent abuse, as if they were not only unfit to participate in the British Constitution; but something worse than men. They speak of them with as much detestation as if they were thieves, swindlers, or pickpockets, or bands of robbers living on rapine and murder. Will these outcasts from the British Constitution, that great mass of the people who are thus reviled as slaves, and much worse fed,—will they not seek an opportunity of one day revenging these insults? This is a question for those to consider who are patronised by Government for vilifying the great body of the nation, which is in fact to tear asunder the bands of society. They brand them as rebels and traitors; and unfortunately for our country, through the mischievous policy of our rulers, too soon may the people be driven from Petition to force, and from seeking Reform to Rebellion. Such is one great cause of Radicalism; and till some efficient remedy be applied, as from the nature of things the cause is always becoming greater, so Radicalism, or by whatever other name it may be called, must and will increase.

To give an idea of the disproportion at present existing between the property and population of different districts, and their share of representation in Parliament, a few instances will suffice.

*Share of the Representation. Population. Property.*

Cornwall, .....	$\frac{1}{1}$ .....	$\frac{3}{0}$ .....	$\frac{3}{4}$
Lancashire, .....	$\frac{3}{3}$ .....	$\frac{1}{1}$ .....	$\frac{1}{6}$
Yorkshire, .....	$\frac{1}{7}$ .....	$\frac{1}{0}$ .....	$\frac{1}{1}$

I now proceed to consider the second Constitutional limitation on the right of Universal Suffrage, the want of capacity to choose a Representative. I have already said that the perfection of a political system must consist in its being perfectly adapted to the circumstances of the country. Now our Constitution is said to be perfect, because, under its operation, the country has risen to unparalleled wealth and glory. The nation has indeed risen, which is a proof that there *has been* something peculiarly excellent in the system under which it has been governed. But the nation is not now rising: and what if I were to admit that at some former time, as in 1688, when our Constitution received its last great finish, that it was then perfect? It would not follow that it is so now: on the contrary it follows that it is now very faulty; because the circumstances of the country are vastly altered without corresponding alterations in the Constitution. If two or even one century ago, there were in the nation only ten thousand men, qualified from the degree of information they possessed, to exercise the right of Suffrage, a million at least are now qualified to exercise it. The unenlightened state of the country a century ago, may be judged of from the vulgar prejudices of even the wisest and best informed. Addison, the chief contributor to the Spectator, was in doubt respecting the existence of witches (now the laughing-stock of every schoolboy); and the laws that condemned miserable old women to be burnt for supposed compacts with the Devil, were repealed by our enlightened Legislature only in 1734! Nay, it is even affirmed (although the thing seems incredible), that in former times grave and pious Divines inculcated from the pulpit a belief in witches; and that some conceived themselves possessed of the supernatural faculty of discerning those affected by Satanic influence, and sometimes singled them out from the midst of the congregation. If such was the state of knowledge among the Rulers and Instructors of the nation, what must the People have been? Will any one maintain that a Constitution adapted to such times of ignorance, requires no modification to suit this highly enlightened age. I should as soon attempt to prove that two and two make four, as to prove that from the general diffusion of knowledge a far greater proportion of the nation are qualified to exercise the right of Suffrage now, than was at the

time of the Revolution. So that whatever laws might then have been established, limiting the right of Suffrage, the reason of the thing and justice demands that such laws should now be modified so as to suit the present time; and I hope the uniform growth of knowledge, patriotism, and virtue, will at a future period demand a further extension of the invaluable Right of Suffrage, the inherent right of every Briton who is capable and worthy to exercise it. The great body of the People becoming every day more and more informed, perceive every day more clearly the wickedness and incapacity of their Rulers, and are therefore eager to exercise the Right of Suffrage so unjustly withheld from them, in order to save their property from corrupt spoliation and their country from ruin. Ministers, conscious that their weakness and worthlessness are clearly seen through by the nation; and that the real Representatives of the wishes and interests of the nation would hurl them in a moment from the situations they so unworthily fill, use every effort to prevent an efficient Reform in the Representation. The public money is lavishly expended to corrupt the Legislature, lest it should do this act of justice; and writers are patronised for persisting in a course of systematic abuse of all who recommend Reform. This conduct of ministers, however, only produces a stronger conviction that Reform is necessary: and while this conviction, which arises from the diffusion of knowledge, the abuses in the Government, and the misery resulting from them—continues—the spirit of Radicalism, or Reform, or by whatever other name it may be called, must and will continue unabated.

As to the third limitation on the right of Suffrage, that arising from the commission of infamous crimes, such as perjury and bribery, much need not be said. If bribery (as it ought to be) were made to include all rewards, remunerations, or favors, in advance or in expectation, for the unworthy purpose of obtaining votes, suffice it to say, that those who at present exercise the right of Suffrage and send to Parliament a majority of *virtual* Representatives for the rest of the nation, (who act in a manner truly worthy of their *real* Constituents), those Electors, I say of a majority of the House of Commons, would be placed beyond the pale of the Constitution, and stand in the same unrepresented state as the Radicals now do. They no doubt would then be equally clamorous for their share in the Representation. This cause of Radicalism, however, I most heartily wish to see brought into full operation; for I am convinced, that this alone would be a great step gained in the work of Parliamentary Reform. As to the extent of improper influence used in the election of Members of the House of Commons, suffice it say, that it was lately declared in that House itself that a great majority of the House were returned by the influence of a number of Peers: more than 200 members were actually enumerated by name, and the existence of the influence was offered to be proved at the bar of the House. The House did not attempt to vindicate its character from this heavy charge; but was fain to shuffle out of it by a point of form! The existence of such enormous abuses, greatly embitters the spirit of Radicalism; for when a man is deprived of his right, the bestowing of it on another who ought not to enjoy it, is felt to be great aggravation of the injury.

Such are the causes of Radicalism: the exclusion of many from the right of Suffrage, who by the spirit of the Constitution, are entitled to exercise it; the growing intelligence of the mass of the nation; the incapacity and wickedness of the present Administration; and the general corruption that has crept into all the departments of our political system. These things call loudly for Reform; but the misery and suffering that that state of things has produced, and the taunts and revilings with which Ministers have replied, by themselves or their minions, to the complaints of their countrymen, have so exasperated the feelings of the people, that nothing will now satisfy them but such a Reform as would not only remedy the present abuses, but cut them up by the root; such a Reform as would give our system, now oscillating between an Aristocracy and an absolute Monarchy, such an impulse towards Democracy that it would never afterwards recover its just equilibrium.

A TRUE BRITON.

**Extract from Norman.**

*Norman's Encounter and Duel with his Rival.*

From me was every heart estranged,  
And in my once-loved native land,  
I lingered but to be revenged,  
On him who had my ruin planned.  
With keenness, yet by caution swayed,  
I watched his steps, his haunts surveyed:  
I feared not death—I did but dread  
To die, ere I his blood had shed:  
And opportunity at last,  
Gave full revenge for all the past.  
I traced him to a rocky glen,  
Not often the resort of men;  
Through which loud foamed the mountain flood,  
A fitting spot for deed of blood.  
Silent and cautious, I pursued  
His footsteps through the adjoining wood,  
And deep within the lonely dell,  
My foe o'ertook as evening fell.  
"Turn, traitor!" I exclaimed;—he turned,  
While vengeance in my bosom burned.  
A pistol on the ground I threw,  
And backward a few steps withdrew.  
"Take it," I said, "thou needs must fight,  
Here one or both shall die to night;  
But be my blood to poison changed,  
If Ellen's death be not avenged!  
False coward! cruel and ascurst,  
When ready, speak! then do thy worst."  
"Fire" he exclaimed, and mortally,  
Each on the other fixed his eye.  
Our bullets on the instant part—  
His grazed my breast, mine reached his heart;  
I scarcely heard his dying groan,  
The gurgling blood suppressed its tone.  
I know not how I felt, my foe  
Yet warm, but lifeless laid and low:  
I could not, even then, forget  
His treachery, Ellen's death, and yet  
I left him not among the rocks,  
To glut the raven and the fox.  
Revenge and hate were satisfied;  
I dragged him to the highway side;  
And there at morn the corpse was found,  
And laid in consecrated ground.

**Scientific Analysis.**

*To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

SIR,

My attention having been lately excited by an Elegant and Scientific Analysis in your Journal (signed ALCOHOL\*) of the Drug vulgarly known in the Shops, and industriously hawked about under the name of "Spirit of Bull." I requested a Brother Pill to procure me a quantity of that original article in Calcutta, in order to amuse myself during the many leisure hours of an Indian professional life, by verifying ALCOHOL's results.

It was procured for me with some difficulty, owing perhaps to the great and increasing demand for "The Spirit" among the Talents and Quality Folks of the metropolis, though the lot which I obtained at last was rescued from the hands of the far-famed Traiteur of the Town Hall, who said he had bought it at Ootacamund on account of its utility to his customers and himself, for culinary and other purposes needless to be named.

It is a pity that ALCOHOL did not communicate in detail the processes by which he obtained his elaborate details of the pro-

\* See Letter of ALCOHOL, in the Journal of the 20th ultimo, page 219, on "the Spirit of JOHN BULL in the East" to be had at No. 11, Bow Bazar, price Six Rupees.

perties, or, as we say, habitudes of this singularly nauseous compound. For want of such useful aid, I was reduced to follow methods of my own, which yielded in many respects the same results, differing at the same time in some essential particulars from those already made public.

The most remarkable of these new properties, was the presence of a very large quantity of the Acid now called Muriatic, but more generally known by the older name of my time as *Marine Acid*.

It was suggested to me by a young Medical friend, that this infusion might have been lately added to enrich the Drug, or that it might have been imbibed by its having been laid out so much of late to bask in the powerful beams of sunshine. However that be, the quantity of this potent and preserving Marine Acid (in the substantial form of Muriate of Silver) was detected in considerable bulk, which may be expressed by the *Lunar formula*  $\frac{7}{12} : \frac{1}{2}$ ; a proportion, as I take it, to the total value of the original simple Spirit (before the admixture) nearly as 600 : 300  $\times$  4 —1200, or above 600 : 1

The other points of difference between ALCOHOL's Analysis and mine are of less note: on touching the salivary glands with this venomous and fiery Spirit, it produced a singular inclination in the tongue to lick up extraneous pituitary matter. I also detected in it much *Aqua Regia*, arising of course from the presence of *Lapis Infernalis*, or *Lunar Caustic*; the fuming spirit of Nitre from which, naturally combined with the *Marine Acid* recently exhibited.

As to the taint of Sulphuretted Hydrogen which was evolved during the operation of the Salts used by me in the decomposition of the Drug, I trace that to purposes for which the leaves from which I made the infusion appeared to have been carelessly though naturally used.

A Naturalist of my acquaintance informs me, that there is nothing new in this famous "Spirit" now vamped up in a new shape; and that many of the various low castes and toad-eating tribes in different parts of the world compound similar Nostums, which they use themselves, and administer as a sort of *sauce piquante* to *kindred people* and friends, for daily food, or to be snuffed up in the gaseous form of *Incense*. I should suppose, however, that the common Spirit to which he alludes, must be devoid of the *Marine Acid*, which has been so largely added to our Oriental Drug, and which is probably a disgusting ingredient even to the palates of many who might have admired it in its original form. But this may be a prejudice on our part, ascribable to the *novelty* of such an admixture in India.

I must not omit stating that the Bull Spirit was observed to affect strongly the green colorific ray, which truly might be expected from its containing *Marine Acid*, or *Chlorine*, another of those hard names with which the Gentlemen of the New School puzzle us disciples of old Black and Priestley.

I remain, with good wishes for your JOURNAL, as the only vehicle of Scientific Communication in India.

Your obedient Servant,

Not a thousand Miles from } LENITIVE LICKSPITTLE.  
Moorshedabad, Oct. 12, 1821. }

P. S. The following notes (from Brande's Chemistry, p. 312) throw some light in the foregoing new properties of this "Spirit." "CHLORIDE OF SILVER." "This compound is easily procured by adding *Marine acid*; it falls in the form of a heavy, insoluble tasteless powder: when moist, it is rapidly reduced by *Hydrogen* (qu : sulphuretted?) when dry Chloride of Silver is heated in a *Silver crucible* it does not lose weight, but fuses; and on cooling concretes into a semi-transparent substance which has been called *HORN Silver*, or *LUNA CORNEA*." Hence manifestly arises its natural connexion with the *BULL Spirit*, and the "arborescent" properties of this useful and much coveted metal, (mentioned in p. 310 of the same excellent Manual) at once suggest the source from which the learned Compounder of the Spirit drew the beautiful "pruning" and "partering" metaphors of his celebrated Prospectus.

L. E.